

1
dearest Mother & Betty Jean, January 27, 1911
I know you have been thinking of me and Grace.
I have been thinking of Brock but thought of Grace
are gone forever. She is going to marry Claude Barron
of Marshall. I met the boy one night but don't know
much about him. If she wants him it pleases
me for I wouldn't want to have a girl that
hasn't the heart to tell a man when she is falling
for another. I knew she thought lots of the boy
but didn't think she would marry him. The
only thing I don't like is who she is marrying.
From what I hear he is not the man for her.
People are subject to change though.

She wrote to me till Jan 13. She knew that
she and I were through the first of December or before.
I don't see how she could marry some one and write
me the letters she wrote. I wrote her yesterday
and let her know what I thought. She may feel
like cutting my throat when she reads what
I had to say.

I cared a lot about her before I got her letter. But
now I am a different man. Bob and others have
told me that this would happen but I didn't believe
them. There must not be a woman that can be trusted.
If Grace couldn't be trusted I know there are now
that can. Of course I am not talking about

married women and my sister.

I want you to write Grace or send her a
Card of Congratulations. There is no need for
us to hate each other just because she
wanted to get married. It may be the best for
us in the long run, especially her. You know
how women are these days. People say I am not
human because I say it is no need of such
actions.

You want to bring Betje Jean up in away
that she won't think of doing the wrong thing.
She is of age to know what life is all about.
And if she is not coached she may be easily
led by some of the girls and boys she fools around
with. I know because I was that age once.
Bob and I are going to do all we can to see
that she gets what she wants so she will have
no excuse to do a wrong.

We got two long letters from you Wednesday.
They really looked good. The old boat kept
us waiting quiet awhile. Bob is going
to write you often now! He knows what
letters mean to you; He is a busy man though.
The show job keeps him on the move; it is his
recreation period though.

Handfast. We are all
your boys. You find parents all
are dependant on their soldiers.
We have dentists here but they have
than than they can think of doing. They have three chairs
for the 4000 men plus the officer, officer wives &
children and non commission officers and wives
and children. The boy that cleaned my teeth is
one of the medical Corps Corp. He works for a
Captain. He used the Captain's tools and chair.
Bob did get his teeth cleaned. I paid for the work out
of my salary. Allen and I are in business.
I get 25¢ and he gets a dollar. All I do is
tell him that someone wants their cleaned and
he does the work. He is not a very good partner though.
he cleans teeth only when he wants to. I don't
like that kind of business. I haven't asked anyone
to have teeth cleaned yet, but I have made two or
three dollars.

but don't get around me
like I did. I sent 13 rolls
of young film 00. and one roll was
not exposed. I don't know how it happened. They
were nice about it. They are sending it back to
me. They want me to send it back to them
when we take eight exposures.

We would like to hear from Maude
Lee and others that owe us a letter. Don't
fail to send her our address. Oh yes, we want
Charlie's address too.

I'm going to bring this to a close for I
am ready for bed and the lights are about to
go out. I will write you again soon. Be
sweet and take care of yourself and your
friends.

Love to all
Love

Brook

January 24, 1941

Dearest Mother and Bettye Jean,

I know you have been thinking of me and Grace. I have been thinking of Brock but thoughts of Grace are gone forever. She is going to marry Claude Barren of Marsfield. I met the boy one night but don't know much about him. If she wants him it pleases me for I wouldn't want to have a girl that hasn't the heart to tell a man when he is falling for another. I knew she thought lots of the boy but didn't think she would marry him. The only thing I don't like is who she is marrying. From what I hear he is not the man for her. People are subject to change though.

She wrote to me till Jan 13. She knew that she and I were through the first of December or before. I don't see how she could marry someone and write me the letters she wrote. I wrote her yesterday and let her know what I thought. She may feel like cutting my throat when she reads what I had to say.

I care a lot about her before I got her letter but now I am a different man. Bob and others have told me that this would happen but I didn't believe them. There must not be a woman that can be trusted if Grace couldn't be trusted. I know there are now that I can. Of course I am not talking about married women and my sister.

I want you to write Grace or send her a card of congratulations. There is no need for us to hate each other just because she wanted to get married. It may be the best for us in the long run, especially her. You know how women are these days. People say I am not human because I say it is no need of such actions.

You want to bring Bettye Jean up in a way that she won't think of doing the wrong thing. She is of age to know what life is all about. And if she is not coached she may be easily led by some of the girls and boys she fools around with. I know because I was that age once. Bob and I are going to do all we can to see that she gets what she wants so she will have no excuse to do a wrong.

We got two long letters from you Wednesday. They really looked good. The old boat kept is waiting quite a while. Bob is going to write you often now! He knows what letters mean to you. He is a busy man though. The show job keeps him on the move; it is his recreation period though.

Top quarter of page is torn away

We have dentists here but they have more than they can think of doing. They have three chairs for the 4000 men plus the officers, officer wives and children. The boy that cleaned my teeth is one of the medical corps boys. He works for a captain. He used the captain's tools and chair. Bob did get his teeth cleaned. I paid for the work out of my salary. Allen and I are in business. I get 25¢ and he gets a dollar. All I do is tell him that someone wants their teeth cleaned and he does the work. He is not a very good partner though he cleans teeth only when he wants to. I don't like that kind of business. I haven't asked anyone to have teeth cleaned yet, but I have made two or three dollars.

Top quarter of page is torn away

And one roll was not exposed. I don't know how it happened. They were nice about it. They are sending it back to me. They want me to send it back to them when we take eight exposures.

We would like to hear from Mandi Lee and others that owe us a letter. Don't fail to send her our address. O yes, we want Charlie's address too.

I'm going to bring this to a close for I am ready for bed and the lights are about to go out. I will write you again soon. Be sweet and take care of yourself and your friends.

Lots of love to all,

Love, Brock

Dear mother.

Feb 5, 1941

I suppose you think we are slowing up an our letter but it seems that they don't send but one boat to the coast a week. This want have until Friday. I want our last lot. and I don't want it get an account of its no use. It has a week since a boat came in so expect we will get a couple of letters tomorrow. hope so very way.

Brock took me down to meet the Catis Sunday and we had a wonderful time. I have been in a lot of houses but never as friendly as this. We went in and talk about 30 min. and she made us pull our coats and this old. Her daughter come in a little later and boy was she good looking and friendly as can be. a little while after she came she was pulling our share off to teach us to do the bola dance. She was on one side and her mother was on the other trying to shake our hips loose. After we quit dancing we all walked out in the middle of the floor and I enjoyed it so much. She also served us teacups, but chocolate and brandy. We stayed till about 11:00. She fixed us by tell us to come back. They are really wonderful. They are also getting us date for 7th night. Brock is taking her daughter (Mavis). You know this is the first date in about a year and a half so I am all excited over it. I think Brock fell for Mavis and I can't blame him. He will let him to forget that too. We called up and got

Permutations at "for you chei" pinda oh on experience, but
oh course, that's the place they go to. I expect Brock
will get a good lesson in dancing too, for she can
really dance. I think she will teach him how, she
had better for we are going to spend his money that
I was going to give him dancing for the party. I'd like
to borrow \$10.00. I sure wish we had a car. we could
really have a swell time. These taxes run up into
money. They are \$25 instead of \$10 so our taxes bill
will run \$25. It will be a nice experience too. I have
never had a date with out a car. I won't know what to
do but will find out I suppose. I hope we can
get a little rating so we can go out every once and
a while, and it will top some clothes too. We
are going to try to get a few next month. We would
like to get a dinner jacket and towels before we get
home. You know we are in society if we can stand
it. It's a break that my few get a number. It would
make this other year pass quick to I like it
better already.

Did I tell you about our President's Ball party.
we had a lovely time, but didn't have much an-
account of we didn't have organs, but we made all
the high spots and both. we were big shots you
know, but our run we will have a better time
Friday night. I can't hardly wait.

I am going to wait until to morrow and get
your letter. I hope I will be seeing you.
(I didn't get to finish your letter) will later
Love Bob

Feb 5, 1941

Dear Mother,

I suppose you think we are slowing up on our letters but it seems that they don't send but one boat to the coast a week. This won't leave until Friday. I wrote Ava last Sat. and I haven't mailed it yet on account of it's no use. It's been a week since a boat came in so expect we will get a couple of letters tomorrow, hope anyway.

Brock took me down to meet the Cady's Sunday and we had a wonderful time. I have been in a ton of homes but none as friendly as theirs. We went in and talked about 30 min and she made us pull our coats and ties off. Her daughter came in in a little later and boy was she good looking and friendly as can be. A little while after she came she was pulling our shoes off to teach us to do the hula dance. She was on one side and her mother was on the other trying to shake our hips loose. After we quit dancing we all sprawled out in the middle of the floor and I enjoyed it so much. She also served us tea and coffee, hot chocolate and brandy. We stayed till about 11:00. She kissed us by told us to come back. They are really wonderful. They are also getting us dates for Friday night. Brock is taking her daughter (Marjorie). You know this is the first date in about a year and a half so I am all excited over it. I think Brock fell for Margie and I can't blame him. It will help him to forget Grace too. We called up and got reservations at "Loi Yu Chai". Kinda expensive but of course that's the places they go to. I expect Brock will get a good lesson in dancing too, for she can really dance. I think she will teach him how, she had better for we are going to spend his money that I was going to give him dancing for the party. I also borrowed \$10. I sure wish we had a car. We could really have a swell time. These taxis run up into money. They are 25¢ instead of 10¢ so our taxi bill will run \$7 or \$8. It will be a new experience too. I have never had a date without a car. I won't know what to do but will find out I suppose. I hope we can get a better rating so we can go out every once and a while, and it will take some clothes too. We are going to try to get a few next month and would like to get a dinner jacket and a tuxedo before we get home. For now we are in society if we can stand it. It's a brake that very few get over here. It would make this other year pass quick too. I like it better already.

Did I tell you about our Presidents Ball Party. We had a lovely time, but didn't dance much on account of we didn't know anyone, but we made all the high spots and both. We were big shots you know. But I am sure we will have a better time Friday night. I can hardly wait.

I am going to wait until tomorrow and get your letter before I finish so will be seeing you.

(I didn't get to finish your letter) will later.

Love, Bob

NEW YORK LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

JACKSON BRANCH OFFICE

DEPOSIT GUARANTY BANK BLDG., ROOMS 1503-1513, 15TH FLOOR

206-8 E. CAPITOL STREET, JACKSON, MISS.

TELEPHONE, 4-6615

CLINTON MONTZ, AGENCY DIRECTOR
FENTRESS RHODES, CASHIER

February 15th, 1941

PLEASE REFER TO
FILE CT

Mr. Talmage B. Thornhill
Mr. James R. Thornhill
17th Air Base Sqd.
Hickam Field
Honolulu, T. H.

Dear Messrs. Thornhill:

Re; Pols. #12 028 260
12 028 265

We acknowledge receipt of your signed change of address forms and change of beneficiary forms on the two above numbered policies, however, we are unable to proceed with the change in beneficiary until we have received the policies. Kindly forward them to this Office at your earliest convenience.

Yours very truly,

FENTRESS RHODES, CASHIER.

BY


Paul B. Rhodes

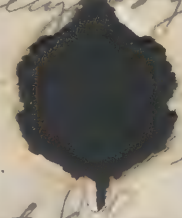
If you will execute the above suggestion we will have our insurance in the right hands (Yonas). I told them that our address was Magnolia and to send all business letters to you. We got a receipt for a years payment too that's what looks good to me. We want

TO AVOID DELAYS, PLEASE ALWAYS GIVE POLICY NUMBER WHEN WRITING THE COMPANY

have to send another check for a year.

I got the letter you wrote just after you heard from me and what I thought about Grace getting married. I don't know how it happened but you told me just what I thought when I got the letter.

It's strange how one can  so much about a person when that person does something wrong which concerns a friend. I don't know what she had in mind; I may never know! She knows what she did and I know everything she did. She drew the parting line of our friendship. I will be her friend but I will never feel toward her as I did last year. Just like I said before if she could write another like she did I could call it quits without shading a bit.

No matter, I do not class everybody around me. I give everyone a chance to  me what they are. I was thinking of the old saying, "Can't trust any woman". Bob told me that about Grace but I wouldn't believe him. I don't speak of people I don't know. They are to me what I can see in them. Grace is a friend but she can't be trusted (there are hundreds just like her. I have you and the family therefore I have all I can ask for. I love you both
Brook

If you will execute the above suggestion we will have our insurance in the right hands (yours). I told them that our address was Magnolia and to send all letters to you.

We got a receipt for a year's payment too, that's what looks good to me. We won't have to send another check for a year.

I got the letter you wrote just after you heard from me and what I thought about Grace getting married. I don't know how it happened but you told me just what I thought when I got her letter.

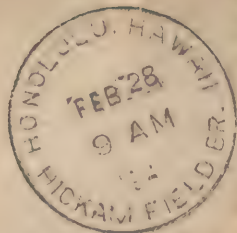
It's strange how one can [damage] so much about a person when that person does something wrong which concerns a friend. I don't know what she had in mind, I may never know. She knows what she did and I know one thing she did. She drew the parting line of our close friendship. I will be her friend but I will never feel toward her as I did last year. Just like I said before if she could write a letter like she did I could call it quits without shedding a tear.

No mother, I do not class everybody around one person. I give everyone a chance to [burned] me what they are. I was thinking of the old saying "you can't trust any woman". Bob told me that about Grace but I wouldn't believe him. I don't speak of people I don't know. They are to me what I can see in them. Grace is a friend but she can't be trusted (there are hundreds just like her). I have you and the family therefore I have all I can ask for,

I love you,

Brock

B 2th 111
Rt. C. Case
H. H. H. H.



Mr. Lucie B. Shonkitt
Magnolia,
Mississippi

26
031
011

Feb 27, 1941

Dear Math & Betty Jean

I know you are mad for not getting a letter before now, but I don't suppose it can be helped. They only ~~have~~ one boat to coast a week now, but maybe ~~they~~ will start sending more before long. We got two nice letters from you & B. yesterday, and they were sure like rain. I got ready to write you and looked for them to answer, and found Brock had taken both of them so he should have a real long letter.

We have been moving to day in our new office. It is going to be much better when we get straightened out.

We had a plane to crash Tuesday and a lot of excitement of course. There were 6 in it and they were going to the big island about 9:30 at night. One of the engines stop and ~~they~~ had too big of a load for just one. The last report ~~they~~ got from them was that they would be barred to land and of course ~~they~~ ^{we} thought they had gone down in the water. We sent out all the planes searching for them and we spotted them the next day about 9:00 o'clock. They made it to the island and crashed in a deep valley about a mile deep.

The only way to get to them is by boat so they
have a party going after them. They were supposed to
get there today and will probably get there tomorrow
or Sat. we dropped them food and blankets from a
plane, and also a note asking if they were all alright
and if so to wave a flag so they would see the
flag. ~~say~~ so they must not be hurt very bad.
The plane is completely wrecked.

Brook and I put in for the C.A.A. exam down
town last week so we figure if we don't
pass the Randolph exam we can take that. It
is the same course they have at Summitt. It
only cost \$6. for an physics exam so we will go
down to get it next week. I have really been
studying the past two weeks. Sum like I don't
have time for anything. I take my ~~up~~ to the
office and study there in my spare ~~time~~. If I
don't pass it won't be my fault. I hope Brook
putting my name in too. I do hope I can pass it.
The King boy is going back Tuesday. I think he won't
be back when he will go, but am sure it won't be
long. Brook has got to have his credit from Summitt

before he can stop his exam so rush it back
as soon as possible for I want him to take it
in May I am sure he will pass it all right
I will be happy if we both make it for it is
really worth while.

I am glad you all had a big day at
Ava and she enjoyed it so much. Too bad the
car had to go and break down. Hope it don't give
you any more trouble. We got the pictures
of Sue and the house. That Sue is the cutest
thing I have ever seen. I can't hardly wait
to see her. I don't know whether Ava is going
to agree with you hoping her this summer or
not. but she don't. She was right when she
said she didn't have a yard for she hadn't got
any. I think she has a lot of flowers in it, but
anyway it want be hard to keep warm & water
it. From all accounts you all don't like watching
much. I don't know much about it but I didn't
like the look of it. Ava said maybe is going
to try to transfer back to McCamb. hope she
can.

I was glad to hear that you got a
hacker for that room. Hope you can keep him
out. Our bills are running pretty high this
month. \$12 for physical room \$8.15 for dining & travel
Babson and I sent \$10 besides take interest and
congrats.

We are planning on going down to see
Cody Sunday eve. we called them up the other
day and ~~they~~ wondered why we hadn't been
before. We will wrap up for last time now.

B. J. how are you coming in the music
but you can play most anything now.

I quit work at the Theatre Monday night. It
took too much of my time and too I wasn't
working anything either.

I from Brock has a nice letter so I will close
and study a little.

Love
Bob

Feb 27, 1941

Dear Mother and Betty Jean,

I know you are mad for not getting a letter before now but I don't suppose it can be helped. They only send one boat to the coast a week now, but maybe they will start sending more before long. We got two nice setters from you and B.J. yesterday and they sure were live savers. I got ready to write you and looked for them to answer and found Brock had taken both of them so he should have a real large letter.

We have been moving today in our new office. It is going to be much better when we get straightened out.

We had a plane to crash Tuesday and a lot of excitement of course. There were 6 in it and they were going to the big island about 9:30 at night. One of the engines stopped and they had too big of a load for just one. The last [unreadable] they got from them was that they would be forced to land and of course we thought they had gone down in the water. We sent out all the planes searching for them and one spotted them the next day about 9:00 o'clock. They made it to the island and crashed in a deep valley about a mile deep. The only way to get to them is by boat so they have a party going after them. They were supposed to get there today and will probably get here tomorrow or Sat. We dropped them food and blankets from a plane, and also a note asking if they were alright and if so to wave a flag so they waved the flag so they must not be hurt very bad. The plane is completely ruined.

Brock and I put in for the C.A.A. course downtown last week so we figure if we don't pass the Randolph exam we can take that. It only cost \$6 for a physical exam so we go down to get it next week. I have really been studying the past two weeks. Seems like I don't have time for anything. I take my book to the office and study there in my spare time. If I don't pass it won't be my fault. I keep Brock pretty busy every night too. I do hope I can pass it. The King boy is going back Tuesday. Strickland hadn't heard when he will go, but I am sure it well won't be long. Brock has got to have his credits from Summit before he can take his exam so rush it back as soon as possible for I want him to take it in May. I'm sure he will pass it alright. I will be happy if we both make it for it is really worthwhile.

I sure am glad you all had a big day at Ava's and she enjoyed it so much. Too bad the car and to go and break down. Hope it don't give you any more trouble. We got the pictures of Sue and the house. That Sue is the cutest thing I have ever seen. I can't hardly wait to see her. I don't know whether Ava is going to agree with you keeping her this summer or not, bet she don't. She was right when she said she didn't have a yard for she hadn't got any. I [unreadable] she has a lot of flowers in it, ha. Anyway it won't be hard to keep mowed will it. From all accounts you all don't like Natchez much. I don't know much about it but I didn't like the looks of it. Ava said Major is going to try to transfer back to McComb, hope he can.

I sure was glad to hear that you got a boarder for that room. Hope you can keep him. Our bills are running pretty [damage] this month. \$12 for physical exam, \$15 to [damage] to uncle Hobson and I owe \$10 besides toilet articles and [unreadable].

We are planning on going down to see Mrs.. Cady Sunday eve. We called them up the other day and she wondered why we hadn't been back. We will make up for lost time now.

B.J. how are you coming in the music. Bet you can play most anything now.

I quit work at the theater Monday night. It took too much of my time and too I wasn't making anything either.

I know Brock has a nice letter so I will close and study a little.

Love, Bob

Dear Mother:

well I'm living in quite a different house from one
I was in when I last wrote you. I have all my curtains
up and like them all fine except ones in bedroom. The
paper is light pink and the room small too the flowered
crotone doesn't look so nice. I'm gonna get one more pair
to match ones I have. I put pair of your kitchen curtains
in my bath. Match perfect. Rug & paper have red &
black in them. put two pair your dining room curtains
in my d. & rich out sitting them the paper is loud
so since they washed so nice & white with yellow
dots I decided they look nice and they do since hangin
the pounce are real nice in living room they reach
floor and hang nice & full. I put kitchen curtains
in kitchen one on window & one on door. I have
polished all the furniture and you'd be surprised how
the color came back if I varnish anything it will
be a clear varnish even bookcase looks nice. We
haven't put wax on floors yet Major is gonna do that
this week-end. Really rug in living room is all I could
use. after getting everything arranged tho' things don't
look quite so crowded. I'm gonna use two crotone
to make couch cover and have chair & couch as are till
spring. They look O.K. since I cleaned them and I'll
put light cover on couch then. we're paying cash
for groceries and Major's raise doesn't come in till
15th so we're sitting tight. Listen when Hartman collects
give him 15¢ for their repro, winding, for my wash
line? I feel like after sitting close for about 3 mos. we
will be able to see things through. Then have Morgan.
plan, bank and refrigerator paid for. See we have
5.70 monthly payments on the stove here.

Listen I want you to check on when that apartment
is rented and if they have it rented I'm not paying
\$5. Let me know soon hear?

Did you go out to place? Mother if folks can pay
you \$5. I'd like to see them get it. Has he seen M. L. Good
yet? who was other family? who drove you?
I guess I lost my pattern did B. Jean ask Nell
about them? Bet she has them.

Major, Sue + I walked down to river last night. Its only 1 block from here. The bridge is beautiful at night. we explored business section of town. I guess Ill get adjusted after I've been here awhile. Recon? we trade at Super Service Store and its a high thing. Stays open till 9 at night so we can shop after supper. Sue had a picnic last night had Major all over place. I have me wash woman dont know what shell be like yet.

Have you heard from Doy? Seem ages since I read thir ltr. Send on to me for will be good while before I hear from them here.

Have you heard from Aunt Babs yet? I wrote she an Exas a card. Be glad when my mail gets started. I need it.

Sue is swell. ~~Not~~ Not even running nose. Has two more crooked upper teeth but not so bad as other one. She is sleeping late here in mornings and 'ane glab. Ther doesn't take nap till afternoon + give a me time to rest when I get where I can.

I have cramps this morn and am nursing that bad as usual. Guess I always will. Huh?

Major said if B. gear has Miss Ott she has best teacher shes ever had. I bet shell like it much better there. How is basket ball coming? Bet she makes + string. How is her dress coming? Tell her I want her to ~~to~~ it on ymas. How is her permanent? I do hope it does good. Her hair worries me. Let her have it set even weeks anyway and tell her to sleep in it every nig. I'm gonna get mine ymas. I sure need one had. gonna put henna on mine + if have time on B. gear. ink you can stand 2 red heads?

No news so will close and write Doy. I wrote them short note Monday. I'm gonna write you long ltr once a week + fill in cards now + then. Time I keep house + Sue, mostly Sue, we write boys and few more people Ill have my time taken. I'm gonna make Sue's two dresses.

Will be enrolling her in cradle roll Sunday and go to Sunday school. Church is 3 blocks away - Love, a

Spring 1941*

Dear Mother:

Well I'm living in quite a different house from one I was in when I last wrote you. I have all my curtains up and like them all fine except ones in bedroom. The paper is light pink and the room small too the flowered [unreadable] doesn't look so nice. I'm gonna get one more pair to match ones I have. I put pair of your kitchen curtains in my hall bath. Match perfect. Rug and paper have red and black in them. Put two pair of dining room curtains in my L.R. hutch out [unreadable] them the paper is loud so since they washed so nice & white with yellow dots. I decided they look nice and they do since hanging the pongce are real nice in living room they reach floor and hang nice & full. I put kitchen curtain in kitchen one on window & one on door. I have polished all the furniture and you'd be surprised how the color came back if I varnish anything it will be a clear varnish even bookcase looks nice. We haven't put wax on floors yet Major is gonna do that this weekend. Real rug in living room is all I could use. After getting everything arranged tho' things don't look quite so crowded. I'm gonna use tan critome to make couch cover and leave chair and couch as are till spring. They look OK since I cleaned them and I'll put light cover on couch then. We're paying cash for groceries and Major's raise doesn't come in till 15th so we're sitting tight. Listen when Hartman collects give him 75¢ for their negro, winding, for my wash here? I feel like after sitting close for about 3 mo. we will be able to see things through. Then have Morgan plan, bank, and refrigerator paid for. See we have 5% monthly payments on the stores here.

Listen I want you to check on when that apartment is rented and if they have it rented. I'm not paying \$5. Let me know soon hear?

Did you go out to place? Mother if Gelks' can pay you \$50. I'd like to see them get it. Has he seen McLeod Yet? Who was the other family? Who drove you?

I guess I lost my patterns. Did B. Jean ask Nell about them? Bet she has them.

Major, Sue, & I walked down to river last night. It's only 7 blocks from here. The bridge is beautiful at night. We explored business section of town. I guess I'll [unreadable] get adjusted after I've been her a while. Rcon? We trade at Super Service Store and it's a huge thing. Stays open till 9 at night so we can shop after supper. Shu had a picnic last night had Major all over place. I have the wash woman don't know what she'll be like yet.

Have you heard from boys? Seems ages since I read their letter. Send one to me for will be good while before I hear from them here.

Have you heard from Aunt Babe yet? I wrote she and Edna a card. Be glad when my mail get's started. I need it.

Sue is swell. Not even runny nose. Has two more crooked upper teeth but not so bad as other one. She is sleeping late here in mornings and I am glad. Then doesn't take nap till afternoon & gives me time to rest when I get where I can.

I have cramps this morn and am nursing hot pad as usual. Guess I always will.
Huh?

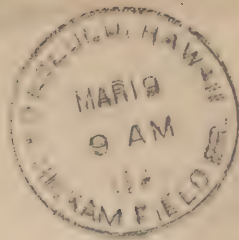
Major said if B. Jean has Miss Ott she has best teacher she's ever had. I bet she'll like it much better there. How is basketball coming? Bet she makes the string. How's her dress coming? Tell her I want her to have it on Xmas. How is her permanent? I do hope it does good. Her hair worries me. Let her have it set every [unreadable] anyway and tell her to sleep in net every night. I'm gonna get mine Xmas. I sure need one bad. Gonna put henna on mine and if have time on B. Jeans. Think you can stand 2 red heads?

No news so will close and write boys. I wrote them short note Monday. I'm gonna write you long letter once a week & fill in cards now & then. Time I keep house and Sue mostly Sue. Ha. write boys and few more people I'll have my time taken. I'm gonna make Sue's two dresses.

We're enrolling her in cradle roll Sunday and go to Sunday School. Church is 3 blocks away. Love, Ava

*The letter from Feb 27, 1941 refers to Bessie's visiting Ava in Natchez, this letter talks about Sue's teeth coming in, which would indicate she is about 1-2 years old. This letter also mentions the family going on a picnic and walking to the Mississippi river, indicating nice weather, not cold or hot.

5 Thornhill
18th A B.
Hickam, T.H.



Mrs Bessie B. Thornhill
Magnolia,
Mississippi

Wednesday 19

Dearest Mother (B.J.)

I know you & I you have been getting too many short letters from me lately. I hope that you will work with me ~~in~~ so much as to except a note when even I have the time to write it.

I am a school boy. I have been for one week I took an exam of 70 min yesterday. If I were the man that grades the papers I ~~would~~ make a hundred or at least 95.

Today will be my first day in electricity. That is why I am pushed for time. I have a long lesson that I should study. Who knows I may get to write you a longer letter to send out on next boat.

I went up to see Dad last night to get the letter he wrote you but I didn't see him. He is studying every chance he gets. You will be surprised to know what he has learned in the past ten days. He means to learn something, believe it or not. (You do know).

Don't get too restless. We are going to
send you two albums full of pictures within
the next two or three weeks; next month I hope!
I sent off three rolls of films that week that
will complete the albums

Good luck to you dear. I want to see
a stone about a mile. I love you
dearly.

Love
Dorothy

Wednesday, March 19, 1941

Dearest Mother and B.J.

I know you think you have been getting too many short letters from me lately. I only hope that you will work with me so much as to except a not when I have the time to write it.

I am a school boy. I have been for one week. I took an exam of forms yesterday. If I were the man that grades the papers Brock would make a hundred or at least 95.

Today will be my first day in electricity. That is why I am pushed for time. I have a long lesson that I should study. Who knows I may get to write you a longer letter to send out on next boat.

I went up to see Bob last night to get the letters he wrote you but I didn't see him. He is studying every chance he gets. You will be surprised to know what he has learned in the past ten days. He means to learn something, believe it or not. You do I know.


Don't get too restless. We are going to send you two albums full of pictures within the next two or three weeks; next month I know. I sent off three rolls of films last week that will complete the albums.

Good luck to you dears. I want to see you about a molecule. I love you dearly.

Love, Brock

Dearest Mother and Betty Jean,

Pickham, T. 12

I think I have good or bad news for you. The right adjective will be determined by our ability to handle Mr. Kenna. 

I need my credits from the college but he doesn't want to let them go until I pay by bill. Isn't there some way to make him turn them over? I wrote him a nice letter this morning. I don't know how much good it will do. Here is where you come in. I have no time to waste. Every minute into he goes. I don't like to ask this of you more than I but I have got to have those credits by first of next month. you go to him and see what he tells you. If he won't let you have them see Paul Johnston or some one.

Why I need the credits? The office is holding up my application for Randolph. If I get the credits I won't have to take the exam. you know what that means. I am not afraid of the exam but it will be best if I can get in without taking the exam.

Tell Mr. Kenna that I am going to pay him
the chicken feed I owe him. Why would he
let \$50 stand between me and a future. If
he has a heart at all he will let me have
what I ask.

He will get my letter the same day you
get this one. If you will see him on that date
or a day later we may have him where we
want him. If you get what I want send
it to me my Clipper (204). I would have sent
his letter by Clipper but the next Clipper won't
leave until the 23rd.

I am glad that you got your man border.
Your ~~room~~^{and some} for last month looked good to
me. Maybe you will make a good hostess
after all. You said the girls moved into one
room. Do they pay same board as they did for
one room? I don't know much about your
business. If they pay same you made a great
deal. you will have the other room taken in
a couple months.

I got a letter from Marjorie last week. She didn't say any thing about Bruce and his engagement. There is something fishy going on back there. I can't let such bother me for I am through with women for awhile.

I hope Mr. Mitchell is right. If you get the land back the place will sell easy. It will do us good to know that Mr. Walter didn't get to keep his bargain to.

There was nothing wrong with your report card this year. If you averaged the first semester with what you had to contend with you will make all A's from now on. Make A's in your books. First thing in basketball a good basketball player and you will have them all beat.

Don't you worry about the bill with Sears. We will take care of it if she said she would. If you had to make an extra payment she will pay it back. I will see to that personally. We are going to work to gether so we can all be on top in the near future.

I don't think I would want to lose my refrigerator
either. She hated to ask you to pay the bill
just I like I hated to ask you to pay Mr.
Kenna a visit.

What did wa mean when she said she
has Cramps this time? I think she forgot to
put in a sentence.

Bob has his papers in for Randall exam too.
He was down yesterday for some books to study.
I think we will make the grade soon.

Good day and good luck. I will
see you again soon. Love to
all,

Bob

P.S. I got another letter from Lwa this
week. She is getting better about her
writing

Early 1941
Hickham, T.H

Dearest Mother and Bettye Jean,

I think I have good or bad news for you. The right adjective will be determined by our ability to handle Mr. Kenna.

I need my credits from the college but he doesn't want to let them go until I pay my bill. Isn't there some way to make him turn them loose? I wrote him a nice letter this morning. I don't know how much good it will do. Here is where you come in. I have no time to waste. Every minute is to be guarded. I don't like to ask this of you mother but I have got to have those credits by first of next month. You go to him and see what he tells you. If he won't let you have them see Paul Johnson or someone.

Why do I need the credits? The office is holding up my application for Randolph. If I get the credits I won't have to take the exam. You know what that means. I am not afraid of the exam, but it will be best if I can get in without taking the exam. Tell Mr. Kenna that I am going to pay him the chicken feed I owe him. Why would he let \$50 stand between me and a future. If he has a heart at all he will let me have what I ask.

He will get my letter the same day as you get this one. If you will see him on that date or a day later we may have him where we want him. If you get what I want send it to me my clipper(20¢). I would have sent his letter by clipper but the next clipper doesn't leave until the 23rd.

I am glad that you got your man boarder. Your income for last month looked good to me. Maybe you will make a good hostess after all. You said the girls moved into one room. Do they pay same board as payed for one room? I don't know much about your business. If they pay same you made a great deal. You will have the other room taken in a couple of months.

I got a letter from Marjorie las week. She didn't say anything about Grace and her engagement. There is something fishy going on back there. I can't let such bother me for I am through with women for a while.

I hope Mr. Mitchell is right. If you get the land back the place will sell easy. It will do us good to know that Mr. Walter didn't get to keep his bargain too.

There was nothing wrong with your report card Bettye Jean. If you averaged B the first semester with what you had to contend with you will make all A's from now on. Make A's in you books; first string in basketball; and a good Saxophone player and you will have them all beat.

Don't you worry about the bill with Sears. Ava will take care of it if she said she would. If you had to make an extra payment she will pay it back. I will see to that personally. We are going to work together so we can all be on top in the near future. I

don't think I would want to loose my refrigerator either. She hated to ask you to pay the bill just like I hated to ask you to pay Mr. Kenna a visit.

What did Ava mean when she said she has cramps this time? I think she forgot to put in a sentence.

Bob has his papers in for Randolph exam too. He was down yesterday for some books to study. I think we will make the grade soon.

Good day and good luck. I will see you again soon. Lots of love to all.

Brock

PS I got another letter from Ava this week. She is getting better about her writing.

I decided not to send my clipper because
the shipper has not been until I sent Tuesday.

Wednesday Feb 16, 1944

Dearest Mother & B. J.

Nothing is wrong so don't get excited. If you see when
I will tell you why I sent this air mail. I would like to
tell you though for the money order speaks as loud as words.
I have decided to pay Southwest what Bob and I owe.
The statement miss Gunt sent me comes to \$43.70.
Make that the total of again. It could be that
she made a mistake before. She says Bob owes her
better than you do but she owes him that
much. We want to make over that though. If she
says \$43.70 pay her but don't pay no more. Just
a minute if Mr. Kenna, but you have my house
you need not pay my bill. I would like very
much to make this personal. But I have got to
have my house at all cost. Love all tracks
our regards.

I got two long letters from you today. I
enjoyed them to the full. I like the picture of you
in prison. I like the look of those faces
too. If the back is like every one says there
should be a wire put up. If there is danger
it is all but murder to let it go with out
being fixed.

I got a letter from Grace too. It was
written before you went to see her. I am
sure you had a big time while there.

I got another letter from Grace this morning.
This first since the first of January. She wrote
just after she received my letter. She said
my letter made her think but she didn't quite
decide. She wasn't going to get married
now. I was a very close. I want to
it was my letter that I ought about the change
but I know that I told her enough to make
some kind of a change. She didn't even tell her
mother about their plans. If I hadn't written
miss Butler she shouldn't have known it. I
am glad that Grace is getting married. I am
for her good only; I am not interested myself.

The dancing house have not again. I am thinking
I starting but have not made the move. I have
enough to think of right now. I am standing for the left,
I am going to put in for C.H.A. when they find out
application. I have my name in for mechanic
school too. When all is settled I will think of
dancing. Dad and I studied Geometry all afternoon.
He stopped working at the theatre last night. We
have everything to give and nothing to receive. We
work there - as a price to be paid. + studying is
a rather spare time and more work. Dad will
be ready for the test in May.

By the way, send my love by express. I want
them as soon as possible. I hope they are on
their way now but I have my doubts.

Betty Jean, mother will give you two dollars
to go to your bank. I would add more but
you know why. I know two dollars is a small sum
but you will have to wait. The money is for a
good cause mother so you may let her know it
and not ask what she will want with it.

Now that your house is full what are you going
to do; you can't find for a boarder for you don't have
room for one. I am glad that you get all your
full. You better squeeze a dollar here and there
for the unlucky day may come we all know
that day will never come though. All ways
remembered don't be late in asking for what you
need. If you can see a dark day ahead let
us know and we will put a light there
for you. We won't make much but that is your
lif if you need it.

If you are a good driver so don't let anybody
buy you in. Get out and drive to
your heart's content. Take a few minutes out
each day to get out and get plenty fresh air and
sun shine.

Betty Jean, how many circles do you play on
your saxophone? Keep up the good work. Love
to all.
Dad will be with you all the time. I will help out with mother's note

February 26, 1941

Dearest Mother and BJ,

Nothing is wrong so don't get excited. If you are calm I will tell you why I sent this air mail. No need to tell you though for the money order speaks as loud as words. I have decided to pay Southwest what Bob and I owe. The statement Miss Gent sent me comes to \$43.20. Make her figure the total up again. It could be that she made a mistake before. She says Bob owes her better than four dollars but she owes him that much we want [damage] over that though. If she says \$43.70 pay her but don't pay no more. Just a minute if Mr. Kenna but you have my hours you need not pay my bill. I would like very much to make this personal. But I have got to have my hours at all cost. Give all teachers our regards.

We got two long letters from you today. I enjoy them to the fullest. The picture of Sue is precious. I like the looks of Ava's house too. If the back is like everyone says there should be a wire put up. If there is danger it is all but murder to let it go without being fixed. We got a letter from Ava too. It was written before you went to see her. I am sure you had a big time while there.

I got another letter from Grace this morning. The first since the first of January. She wrote just after she received my letter. She said my letter made her think but she didn't go into details only did [damage] she want going to get married now [ink stain] marry Claude. I won't say it was my letter that brought about the change but I do know that I told her enough to make some kind of a change. She didn't even tell her mother about their plans. If I hadn't written Mrs. Butler she wouldn't have known it. I am glad that Grace is not marrying Claude for her good only; I am not interested my self.

The dancing lessons have not begun. I am thinking I starting but have not made the move. A have enough to think about right now. I am studying for Randolph. I am going to put in for CAA when they send me application blanks, my name is in for mechanic school too. When all is settled I will think of dancing. Bob and I studied geometry all afternoon. He stopped working at the theatre last night. He has everything to gain and nothing to lose. His work there was a pass time but studying is a better pass time and more valuable. We will be ready for the test in May.

By the way, send me my hours by clipper. I want them as soon as possible. I hope they are on their way now but I have my doubts.

Bettye Jean, mother will give you two dollars to go in your bank. I would send more but you know why. I know two dollars is a small sum but you will have to wait. The money is for a good cause mother so you may let her have it and not ask what she may want to do with it.

Now that your house is full what are you going to do; you can't look for a boarder for you don't have room for one. I am glad that you got all rooms full. You better squeeze a dollar her and there for an unlucky day may come. We all hope that day will

never come through. All ways remember don't be late in asking for what you need. If you can see a dark day ahead let us know and we will put a light there for you. We don't make much but that is yours if you need it.

You are a good driver so don't let anybody keep you in. Get our and drive to your heart is content. Take a few minutes out back day to get out and get plenty fresh air and sunshine.

Bettye Jean, how many pieces can you play on your saxophone. Keep up the good work. Love and Kisses to all.

Brock

Bob will write big letter soon and will help out with another note

Hirsham, I. N.
April 7, 1941

Dear Mother and Bettye Jean,

It not only seems long but it has been
ages since I wrote last. There wasn't much
need of writing though for no boat left today
and the next one leaves Friday. So you see
I am still on my toes. A lot of time
is taken up with my studies but I still
have time to write you. I don't recall
where I left off in my last letter so I
will commence with last Thursday night.

As you know we three visited Mrs.
Cady's family and two of their girl friends.
The first thing was a piece of Speckled
Candy. Catherine couldn't wait till I ate
a piece of her candy that was full of salt.
I don't see why anyone would spoil up good
candy with salt, do you!

In and Edith were at Mrs. Cady's
house. The candy was
for us too. She saved the pie with
hot chocolate; my favorite. The pie had
a delicious flavor but it was rather
light. It was her first time. To try the
light and to see what too much milk
was decided different about the cake. She
found out what you meant. When I told

Hickham T.H.
April 9. 1941

Dear Mother and Bettye Jean,

It not only seems long but it has been ages since I wrote last. There wasn't much need of writing though for no boat left lately and the next one leaves Friday. So, you see I am still on my toes. A lot of my time is taken up with my studies but I still have time to write you. I don't recall where I left off in my last letter so I will commence with last Thursday night.

As you know we three visited Mrs. Cady's family and two of their girlfriends. The first thing was a piece of April fool candy. Catherine couldn't rest till I ate a piece of her candy that was full of salt. I don't see why anyone would mess up good candy with salt, do you!

Donna and Edith were at Mrs. Cady's when we arrived. The caramel pie was [damage] us too. She served the pie with hot chocolate, my favorite. The pie had a delicious flavor but it was rather soft. It was her first time to try the recipe and too she used too much milk. She decided different about the cream. She found out what you meant. When I told

rest of letter missing

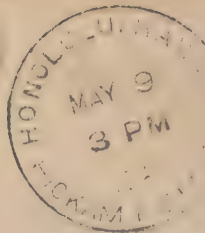
HAWAII



PARADISE

• of the •

PACIFIC



Mrs Berrie Tharrell
Box # 205
Magnolia, Mississippi

9 May 1941

Dear Mother & Betty Jean,

Well how is every one to day? I am
O.K. except for one thing. I was up last
night about 11:30 with a terrible tooth
ache and went down to the dentist
and a boy put a couple fillings and so
it would quit hurting until to
day. I went back this morning and
the Dr. pulled two of them in my
left jaw. They were about the size
of blue-balls the hole size of my
mouth in fact. I hated to see them
pulled but was into the best
thing to do. It makes a ugly hole in
back of mouth but you can't tell it
from the front.

Well D.D. I suppose you had a
swell time at the contest. I can
hardly wait to hear from it. Maybe
next year you will be playing in
it. How did you like sleeping in the

Shall?

I am wondering how can it be coming out. I do hope for it the last book that it will map the place even though we are not sure of want to see them leave it. That was mean of him telling N.C. the last and things, but could not expect nothing else from him. I am wondering if he is going to forever or not. I have my doubts. We got a note from him saying he was going. I hope he has been that the first of the for him. I expect he will like it.

We got a nice letter from Ava this morning she came to be feeling a lot better. She sent a picture of the negro girl holding Sue. It was real cute. Said. Major was back at work too. It is the first decent letter we have had from her in good while.

Brack, Ray, S.C. and I went down
to the Brack broadcast lot and dug
it late. I have been planning on it
a long time but finally made it. we
made five pictures and came back to
town and bought us a pair of shoes
and some other things. we got copper
and went home. Sunday Harper million
and I went around the island in his
water cycle. we had lots of fun.
we got in a rain about half way
around and got wet. we started up on
the peak. There is a road going up a mountain
which is about 2,000 ft high. It goes
almost straight up. It was my first
time to go up. we got back about 5:00.
my boss is in the hospital now but
will be well soon.

we will go down to the library
Sunday for some photo entertainment.

Mrs. Cady is on the committee and she
ask us to her house afterwards. So you
and I will have a small time. we bought
her a small gift for Mother Day. Brock
got it this evening - is I don't know
what he has.

you ask about the ice box. I think
its a good idea but I know you need
it and it will come in handy later.

That garden sounds like a like some
I but it does sound a good bit too. I
hope you are happy enough to keep
your house full through the summer.

we got the suit and they sure
will come in handy I think I will
have enough to by an over. Brock will
need a couple pair of pants. we sent
uncle Nathan the final payment
on car so that's paid.

No news so will see you later.
Love Bob.

7 May 1941

Dear Mother and Betty Jean,

Well how is every one today? I am OK except for one thing. I woke up last night about 11:30 with a terrible tooth ache and I went down to the dispensary and a boy got a couple of fillings and so it would quit hurting until today. I went back this morning and the Dr. pulled two of them in my left jaw. They were [unreadable] he said. It feels like the whole side of my mouth is out. I hated to see them pulled but suppose it's the best thing to do. It makes an ugly hole in the back of my mouth but you can't tell it from the front.

Well B.J. I suppose you had a swell time at the contest. I can hardly wait to hear from it. Maybe next year you will be playing in it. How did you like sleeping in the hotel?

I am wondering how court is coming out. I do hope you get the land back for it will make the place worth more and too I want to see them loose it. That was mean of him selling N.C. the house and things, but couldn't expect nothing else from him. I am wondering if he is going to Panama or not. I have my doubts. We got a note from him saying he was going. I hope he does for that's the kind of place for him. I expect he will like it.

We got a nice letter from Ava this morning. She seems to be feeling a lot better. She sent a picture of the negro girl holding Sue. It was real cute. Said Major was back at work too. It is the first decent letter we have had from her in a good while.

Brock, Ray, J.C. and I went down to the Brock broadcast [unreadable]. I have been planning on it a long time but finally made it. We made few pictures and came back to town and bought us a pair of shoes and a few other things. We got supper and went home. Sunday Harper, William and I went around the Island on his motorcycle. We had lots of fun. We got in a rain about half way around and got wet. We started up on the Pilu, that's a road going up a mountain which is about 3000 ft. high. It goes almost straight up. It was my first time to go up. We got back about 5 o'clock. My face is blistered now but will be well soon.

We will go down to the library Sunday for some kind of entertainment. Mrs. Cady is on the committee and she asked us to her home afterwards. So sure we will have a swell time. We bought her a small gift for Mother's Day. Brock got it this evening so I don't know what he has.

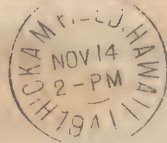
You ask about the ice box. I think it's a good idea for I know you need it and it will come in handy lots.

That garden sounds like a life saver. I bet it does save a good bit too. I hope you are lucky enough to keep your house full through the summer.

We got the suits and they sure will come in handy. I think I will have enough to buy one now. Brock will need a couple pair of pants. We sent uncle Hopson the final payment on car so that's paid.

No news so will see you later,

Love, Bob



HAWAII
PARADISE
of the
PACIFIC

Miss Betty Jean Thornhill
Box 206
Magnolia, Mississippi

I can't mother and B.J.

11-12-41

your eldest son is on "K.P." His first day was the fifth of this month; his last day will be December 5. I was luck to get my duty as a "K.P." The K.P. Chaplain is a close friend. He is the mess sergeant's right hand man. This friend call me to one side my first day and told me of a job that is almost no job that would cost me a few dollars. He could get any one to take it but he gave me the break; I accepted the offer. I have to get up at five but I don't start working until 8:15. I eat at five. Then I come back to bed until 7:30 or 8:00. I work until 9 or 9:30 and I am through until 1:30. I work until 2:30 in the afternoon. So you see I work about three hours a day; the others work three meals a day, sweep and mop after every meal. They finish at 6:30 at night. Would you have accepted the offer that was made to me? He asked for \$3 which is only a drop in the bucket. Some boys say that much to get off one day. It goes to show that it's who you know in the army and not what you know. Eighty-five percent of the men in charge can be bought. It's a racket. The men in my squadron are all the time asking me what kind of a job I have or how do you manage to stay on your bunk instead of in the kitchen. I tell them that I

Am the supply sergeant. ~~First~~^{Two} of the N.C.S. that
shy near me. One all the time asking questions
that shouldn't interest them. They are non-commission
officers and it is in their head that they are to
tell us what to do. I feel like cutting them short
sometimes or asking them what is it to them
what I do. After all I am the one living my life.
They are my friends but still I don't like the way
they do or the way they talk. I act like I am
in a room by myself. I do what I want to do
at any time of the night ~~and~~ day.

Bob, Clayton Broyles, Jamison, and I went dancing
at the Central Union Church Monday night. There were
some nice looking girls there but there were
too many that didn't look to suite me. But
we enjoyed the evening very much. The dance
was suppose to stop at 10:30 but the next day was
a holiday (homeslice day) so we added 45 minutes
on the end. I danced with three girls from Roosevelt
High School that know Marjorie Cady. We talk
about her plus other things.

I stayed in yesterday and last night. Chester
Gutierrez and I went swimming in the Dickman
Field Lake yesterday afternoon. It opened Sunday
morning. It is one of the largest I've seen over
here. I may visit it often.

I have been a home stay most of the week
 no dates, so I stay home. Ben, Eugene Ray, Chester
 and I went to the Hawaiian theatre to see
 Joan Bennett in "She Knows All the Answers"
 we enjoyed the show even though it wasn't
 a first class picture in my opinion.

I am still on "K 8" working two or three hours
 a day. I do some reading and a little writing.
 I should be studying for the "A. M." test that I take
 in December. I took the practical yesterday.
 I was asked about 30 or 40 questions about the
 engines of an airplane. I don't know what kind
 of a grade he will give me. I didn't know
 all the answers but I knew a lot of them.

Sorry that there is no news at this time.
 Maybe I will have something to tell you in
 the next letter. Be sweet and remember
 that I love you dearly.

Love
 Brock.

Dearest Mother and B.J.

Your oldest son is on "K.P." His first day was the fifth of the month; his last day will be December 5. I was luck to get my duty as a "K.P." The K.P. chaser is a close friend. Hi is the mess Sergeants right hand man. This friend call me to one side my first day and told me of a job that is almost no job that would cost me a few dollars. He could get anyone to take it but he gave me the break. I accepted the offer. I have to get up at five but I don't start working until 8:15. I eat at five. Then I come back to bed until 7:30 or 8:00. I work until 9 or 9:30 and I am through until 1:30. I work until 2:30 in the afternoon. So you see I work about three hours a day; the others work three meals a day, sweep and mop up after every meal. The finish at 6:30 at night. Would you have accepted the offer that was made to me? He asked for \$3 which is only a drop in the bucket. Some boys pay that much to get off one day. It goes to show that it's who you know in the Army and not what you know. Eighty five percent of the men and charge can be bought. It's a racket. The men in my squadron are all he time asking me what kind of a job I have or how do you manage to stay on your bunk instead of in the kitchen. I tell them that I am the supply sergeant. The NCOs that sleep near me are all the time asking qu3estions that shouldn't interest them. They are non-commissioned officers and it is in their head that they are to tell us what to do. I feel like cutting them short sometimes or asking them what is it to them what I do. After all I am the one living my life. They are my friends but still I don't like the way they do or the way they talk. I act like I am in a room by myself. I do what I want to do at any time of the night and day.

Bob, Clayton, Broyles, Jamison, and I went dancing at the Central Union Church Monday night. There were some nice looking girls there but there were too many that didn't look to suite me. Also we enjoyed the evening very much. The dance was supposed to stop at 10:30 but the next day was a holiday (Armistice day) so we added 45 minutes on the end. I danced with three girls from Roosevelt High School that know Marjorie Cady. We talk about her plus other things.

I stayed in yesterday and last night. Chester Graborek and I went swimming in the Hickam Field pool yesterday afternoon. It opened Sunday morning. It is one of the largest I've seen over here. I may visit it often.

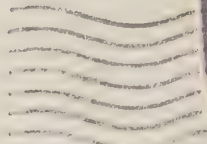
I have been a home boy most of the week. No dates, so I stay home. Bob, Eugene Ray, Chester and I went to the Hawaiian theatre to see Jean Bennitt in "She Knows All the Answers". We enjoyed he show even though it wasn't a first class picture in my opinion.

I am still on "K.P." working two or three hours a day. I do some reading and a little writing. I should be studying for the A.M. test that I take in December. I took the practical yesterday and was asked about 30 or 40 questions about the engines of an airplane. I don't know what kind of a grade he will give me. I didn't know all the answers but I knew a lot of them.

Sorry that there is not news at this time. Maybe I well have something to tell you in the next letter. Be sweet and remember that I love you dearly.

Love

Brock



Mrs Beattie Thornhill
P. O. # 205
Magnolia, Mississippi

Dear mother & B.J.

will look as if we are going to have to stand short on letters. we didnt get one from you last week ~~and~~ and sent a short one this week. I got a long letter from Kilda today the first in long time. I dont think I will answer it for it would only cause me to ^{have to} write that many more and you know how I hate to write letters. I sure missed you but think I will just forget them all except yours & Aue.

By the way did you know that you addressed ~~of~~ your last letter to Honolulu, miss. and it took it 16 days to get here. It went new a home and they changed it to Hawaii.

I am doing O.K. in school and like it fine. I made 87 this week, but we have a hard test next week so expect it might drop a little but will try to keep it up. I have 10 more week now and will be glad when its over.

So they hadnt heard from daddy yet. well write him soon and it dont bother me at all for I am not interested. I hope the ~~test~~ trial will turn out O.K. and will be glad when

its own. I don't see why you would have any
trouble with it and it will be not thus it
should be raised.

It sounds as tho cousin Fattie is about
done for. I am glad he went back home. It
would have been nice if he had picked them
~~both~~ both out of the back door. I can't picture
anyone doing something like that.

Joe had about enough being rich hope he gets
over it real soon. So Hubert too would well
I imagine they will live it much better for
I can see why they wouldn't get a long.

Well tomorrow is Thanksgiving and I hope
I will be full I can hardly see all day noon
and night. We have a big dinner on the field
and Brock, Carlin, Betty and I ~~are~~ are dining &
dancing tomorrow night with a big dinner. I
got Brock a date with Carlin (Betty's friend) and
I am sure he will like her very much. He is
in anything like Betty I am sure he will. Betty
& I had a wonderful time on the Rock Sunday. We
had a damn good dinner with Fred, Chisler & all

the timming. we stayed out until about 10:00
and came back to town. I am having a better
time than I have ever had and time is flying
by.

We go down to Mrs. Colby's Sunday evening
for a big dinner and know we will have a big
time. we went to an orchard show with them
last night and they said here that one could
see could have seen them.

We don't know when the boat goes out any more
they want to let them publish the schedule any
more so we must write and have it get there.

If you or the boys have any out of any thing to
write so will see you later.

Love
Bal

November 21, 1941

Dear mother and B.J.

Well looks as if we are going to have to stand short on letters. We didn't get one from you last week and just a short one this week. I got a long letter from Hilda today the first in a long time. I don't think I will answer it for it would only cause me to have to write that many more and you know how I hate to write letters. I owe several now but think I will just forget them all except yours and Ava.

By the way did you know that you addressed your last letter to Honolulu, Miss. and it took 16 days to get here. I went to New Orleans and they changed it to Hawaii.

I am doing OK in school and like it fine. I made 87 this week, but we have a hard test next week so expect it might drop a little but will try to keep it up. I have 10 more weeks now and will be glad when it is over.

So they hadn't heard from daddy yet. Well neither have I and it don't bother me at all for I am not interested. I hope the trial will turn out OK and will be glad when it's over. I don't see why you would have any trouble with it and if he is not there it should be easy.

It sounds as the cousin Fattie is about done for. I am glad he went back home. It would have been nice if he had kicked them both out of the back door. I can't [unreadable] anyone doing something like that.

Too bad about Webb being sick. Hope he gets over it real soon. So Hobart has moved. Well I imagine they will like it much better for I can see why they wouldn't get along.

Well tomorrow is Thanksgiving and I know I will be so full I can hardly see all afternoon and night. We have a big dinner on the field and Brock, Carbian, Betty and I are dining & dancing tomorrow night with a big dinner. I got Brock a date with Carbian (Betty's friend) and I am sure he will like her very much. If she is anything like Betty I am sure he will. Betty and I had a wonderful time on the Beach Sunday. She had a darn good dinner with fried chicken & all the trimmings. We stayed out until about 10:00 and came back to town. I am having a better time than I have ever had and time is flying by.

We go down to Mrs.. Cady's Sunday evening for a big dinner and know we will have a big time. We went to an orchid show with them Sat Night and they saw beautiful ones wish you could have seen them.

We don't know when the boat goes out any more. They won't let them publish the schedule any more so we just write and hope it gets there.

It looks as though I have run out of anything to write so will see you later.

Love, Bob

Dearest Ones,

11-22-41

Here is the letter I promised you. But first of all I will tell you what I want you to do for me for Xmas. Send Mrs. & Mrs. + Katherine Cady a Xmas card (a nice one about 10¢ or 15¢) 2093 Matt-Smith Dr. You don't know the Emersons but it's okay for you to send them one too. Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Emerson, 3499 Alani Dr.

Most important is something to Marjorie Cady - Whitman College, Walla Walla, Washington. You should know what she would like better than I. A sack of pecans, a fruit cake, or some present that is a part of the South. I should send her something from here but I don't know what to get her.

You asked for my measurements. Here they are:
Shirt ~~33~~ 14 1/2 - 33 - Trousers 31 - 34 3/4. Bob will tell you his. I think his shirt is 15 - 33 and trousers 32 - 34. Who won the argument?

I haven't had as many dates as I should have had but I will tell you what I did for pass time.

Keep in mind that I am on K P.

I am lost before I start I don't even know what day to begin with. I do know that Bob, Jan King, and I dropped by to see the Cadeys after we had dinner in town one day last week. They were used to attend an Orchid parade at the Art

Reading. I saw some beautiful flowers and
all of them were orchids. All sizes, colors and shapes.
Mrs. Cady enjoyed it better than I for she
knows more about flowers.

Barbara, Chuter Grubbs, and I went to
the circus last Friday night. It was Barbara's first
since she was eight years old. She was scared
to ride the whip and Javis rode so we went
to ~~the~~ ^{two} shows. The first was to see the people
ride motor cycles on the tank. If you haven't
seen this do so at the next fair. Barbara
and others got plenty scared. The crazy man
and woman went all over that tank, up & down
and around about 8" from the ~~top~~ ^{top}. I enjoyed it
because it takes nerves to ride like that.

The second show was the circus. Lions, seals, and
monkeys that are trained better than I. The
trapeze ~~men~~ ^{stunts} were good too.

We left the circus and stopped at Spuds
for foot long and Coca Colas (circus food) I had
to get Barbara home early for she had to work
the next day. She enjoyed the evening
evenly. I could tell for she is not used to things like
that.

The Hickam Field Monthly dance was on Monday night. It was like the rest of them. Several women but out of my class. Barbara came out and brought three nice girls. I danced with them but none of the others.

The dance was over; I saw Barbara to her car. On my way to the Barracks I saw Clayton Broyles, a driver of a Command Car for some of the girls. He asked me to go in with him; I did. There were two girls; sisters. I sat between them and Broyles drove them home. The girls were cute and fairly interesting. Broyles & I were back on the post at 1:15.

The dancing class that was scheduled for Monday night took place Sunday night. The University Club met at seven so I didn't dance. The meeting was short. Blair and I went to the Princess Theatre to see "The Shepherd of the Hills" at 8:15. It was a good picture but I don't like that type of story.

Wednesday must have been one of my lucky days. I didn't pull KP that afternoon because the University Club was invited to some Robinsons of an afternoon of entertainment.

I asked for King & Bethel to get a get well card for a friend to send his daddy. I came back thirty minutes later and found a blue piece of

paper on the windshield under the wiper. It was a ticket; I was parked in a bading zone. It was to be a parking place but they didn't make a good job of removing the white paint when they made the change. (I gave the ticket to Bob the beginning morning.)

The ticket didn't bother me. I went on to the party. The home is the most beautiful I've been in here. 2429 ~~W. 24th~~ Neuman Ave. The house is better than 100% off the road on the top of a small mountain. The hill is all filled up with shrubs and flowers. There is a river in the valley. All this is on their property and is in plain view. The hostess had girls also. I had lots of jobs for awhile. The girl I was with had to leave at 3:30. Mrs. Wall and Barbara came at four. I was with them the rest of the evening. I took Barbara down and showed her what a beautiful place it was. Mrs. Wall watched us. She said we looked so romantic walking across the stream on stepping stones (I was surprised to hear her say such.) We have an invitation to go back on the 27. I am going early, get a girl and enjoy myself. We will sit under the palm trees and watch the water flow. I don't think the girl will be Barbara this time.

11-25-41

I spent a quite day at home; went to the mess hall frequently. You see this was the beginning day. I was on K P but I didn't have anything to do. First I gave Bob the traffic ticket, he took it like a man. A few hours later I carried him a cluster of bananas; about two dozen large ones. Thirty minutes later I sacked up a three lbs. of fruit cake and a half dozen apples; he put them in the car.

Nuts and candy were in sacks for the boys. Each boy was given one sack. Brock didn't stand short. I emptied several sacks into one and gave them to Ted. I did the same for Eugene Ray. The same for me twice. There were several hundred lb sacks of ~~fruit cake~~ left from dinner. I got a gunny sack full. I brought them up and separated the nuts from the candy. I gave Mrs. Cady a sack of nuts (wall nuts, pecans, negro toes, and chas nuts) and candy (all kind). I gave her some of the fruit cake too. I did the same for Mrs. Wall. One corner of my foot locker is being used for nuts and candy storage.

Bob, Eugene Ray, and I left at 1:30 to see Moon over Miami at the Varsity Testie. It was a beautiful picture.

we stopped by the police station and paid the fine (\$1.00) for parking in a loading zone. Then we made our delivery to Mrs. Cady & the girls. We had to make the call short because we had dates at 7:30.

The dates were with two pretty and sweet girls. Betty & Carolyn. You have heard a lot of Betty and you may hear more of Carolyn soon. It was my first date with her so want tell too much. We had dinner at Fan Yee Chai. It was suppose to be a Thelma giving dinner but their room was short; we settled for a big juicy steak. We had a few dances and a short drive before telling the girls good night.

I went to the East theatre Friday night to see "Forced Landing", a class B picture but not bad. I went to the show because I slept all day and I needed to get out for awhile.

Blair, Wood, and I went to the Hawaiian theatre Saturday night to see "Sun Valley Serenade" - Inja Henie on ice. It was a good story.

Sunday was a big day. I was on K.P. from 7:30 to 8:30. Bob and I went to the Cady's to help prepare for that nite. I took pears, raisins, grapes, candy, and more nuts for decoration.

We had a nice group. Mr & Mrs Emerson
dropped in before dinner; they stayed for dinner.
During the meal Mr & Mrs Gregg dropped in.
No one knew they were coming. Three nurses
from Queen Hospital came after dinner. The
evening ended at midnight. All of us had
a wonderful time. We had hot spiced pineapple
juice before dinner. We didn't eat our pie until
the turkey settled. Pie was served with hot wine.
Everything went over swell.

So ends another week in Hawaii. This
week is not going to be as full though. I think my
husband is a little jealous.

Your Xmas gifts have not been mailed. I have
them packed but not wrapped with heavy paper. You
will find all of them in one package. Awa's, Major's, & Luis
can be distinguished by the tags. It may not seem
reasonable but the package is valued at \$15 or more.
Luis doll for instance cost \$1.25. The salt and pepper
shaker \$1.25. We didn't know what to get. Everything
is so high and too this is no place to buy gifts.

If you will send me addresses I will send cards.
I have 25 ready to send; I am getting 25 more next
week. No news so will close. Love
Louise & Brock

Dearest ones,

Here is the letter I promised you. But first of all I will tell you what I want you to do for me for Xmas. Send Mrs.. and Mr. Katherine Cady a Xmas card (a nice one about 10¢ or 15¢) 2093 Matt-Smith Dr. You don't know the sons it's okay for you to send them one too. Mr. and Mrs.. Kenneth Emerson, 3499 Alani Dr. Most important is something to Marjorie Cady-Whitman College, Walla Walla, Washington. You should know what she would like better than I. A sack of pecans, a fruit cake, or some present that is a part of the south. I should send her something from here but I don't know what to get her.

You asked for my measurements. Here they are: Shirt 14½-33-Trousers 31-34½. Bob will tell you his. I think his shirt is 15-33 and trousers 32-34. Who won the argument?

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The second show was the circus. Bears, seals, and monkeys that are trained better than I. The trapeze stunts were good too.

We left the circus and stopped at Speeds for foot longs and coca colas (circus food). I had to get Barbara home early for she had to work the next day. She enjoyed the evening immensely. I could tell for she is not used to things like that.

The Hickam Field monthly dance was on Monday night. It was like the rest of them. Several women but out of my class. Barbara came out and brought three nice girls. I danced with them but none of the others.

The dance was over; I saw Barbara to her car. On my way to the Barracks I saw Clayton Broyles, a driver of a command car for some of the girls. He asked me to go in with him; I did. There were two girls; sisters. I sat between them and Broyles drove them home. The girls were cute and partial interesting. Broyles and I were back on the post at 1:15.

Brock

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Wednesday must have been one of my lucky days. I didn't pull K.P. that afternoon because the University Club was invited to Ms. Robinsons for an afternoon of entertainment.

I parked on King and Bethel to get a get well card for a friend to send his daddy. I came back thirty minutes later and found a blue piece of paper on the windshield under the wiper. It was a ticket; I was parked in a loading zone. It used to be a parking place but they didn't make a good job of removing the white paint when they made the change. (I gave the ticket to Bob Thanksgiving morning.)

The ticket didn't bother me. I went on to the party. The home is in the most beautiful I've been in here. 2429 Neuana Ave. The house is better than 100 ft off the road on the top of a small mountain. The hill is all fixed up with shrubs and flowers. There is a river in the valley. All of this so on their property and is in plain view. The hostess had girls also. I had lots of fun for a while. The girl I was with had to leave at 3:30. Mrs.. Wall and Barbara came at four. I was with them the rest of the evening. I took Barbara down and showed her what a beautiful place it was. Mrs.. Wall watched us. She said we looked so romantic walking across the stream on stepping stones (I was surprised to hear her say such). We have an invitation to go back on the 27th. I am going early, get a girl, and enjoy myself. We will sit under the palm trees and watch the water flow. I don't think the girl will be Barbara this time.

I spent a quiet day at home; went to the mess hall frequently. You see this was Thanksgiving day. I was on K.P. but I didn't have anything to do. First I gave Bob the traffic ticket; he took it like a man. A few hours later I carried him a cluster of bananas; about two dozen large ones. Thirty minutes later I sacked up three tho of fruit cake and a half dozen apples; he put them in the car.

Nuts and candy were in the sacks for the boys. Each boy was given one sack. Brock didn't stand short. I emptied several sacks into one and gave them to Bob. I did the same for Eugene Ray. The same for me twice. There were several hundred sacks of small sacks left from dinner. I got a gunny sack full. I brought them up and separated the nuts from the candy. I gave Mrs.. Cady a sack of nuts (walnuts, pecans, negro tots, and chess nuts) and candy (all kinds). I gave her some of the fruit cake too. I did the same for Mrs.. Wall. One corner of my foot locker is being used for nuts and candy storage.

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The dates were with two pretty and sweet girls Betty and Carolyn. You have heard a lot of Betty and you may hear more of Carolyn soon. It was my first date with her so won't tell too much. We had dinner at Tan Yu Chai's. It was supposed to be a Thanksgiving dinner but there food was short; we settled for a big juicy steak. We had a few dances and a short drive before telling the girls goodnight.

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Blair, Wood and I went to the Hawaii Theatre Saturday night to see "Sun Valley Serenade" – Senja Henie on ice. It was a good story.

Sunday was a big day. I was on K.Pl. from 7:30-8:30. Bob and I went to the Cady's to help prepare for that night. I took pears, raisins, grapes, candy and more nuts for decoration.

We had a nice crowd. Mr. & Mrs.. Emerson dropped in before dinner; they stayed for dinner. During the meal Mr.& Mrs.. Gregg dropped in. No one knew they were coming. Three nurses from Green Hospital came after dinner. The evening ended at midnight. All of us had a wonderful time. We had hot spiced pineapple juice before dinner. We didn't eat our pie until the turkey settled. Pie was served with Port Wine. Everything went over swell.

So ends another week in Hawaii Nei. This week is not going to be as pill though I think my head is getting jealous.

Your Xmas gifts have not been mailed. I have them packed but not wrapped with heavy paper. You will find all of them in one package. Ava's, Major's, & Sue's can be distinguished by the tags. It may not seem reasonable but the package is valued at \$15 or more. Sue's doll for instance cost \$1.15. The salt and pepper shaker \$1.25. We didn't know what to get. Everything is so high and too this is no place to buy gifts.

If you will send me addresses I will send cards. I have 25 ready to send; I am getting 25 more next week. Now news so will close. Loads of Love,

Brock

Hello Every one,

Just a few lines to let you know that I
still on my feet. I would write a letter but I know
Bob has told you everything.

We went on a mountain hike Sunday. It is
one great pleasure. I think I have missed lots by
not going before now. I can't go to church and on
hike too so I have decided to hike awhile. I will
be the same though.

The trail was ten miles long. There were about
sixty of us on the hike. Two of us lost the trail and
had to make us one. We had lots of fun. A lady invited
us in and gave us ice water. She let us look through
her field glasses also. We saw the name on a tree when
we hit. It was a Dr. Cooper. We could see all
along the coast for miles which was six miles away.
They have a wonderful view of Honolulu and Waikiki. I
went swimming when we got back off the hike. I am
crazy about the water now.

We wrote Dr. Hawley for a recommendation. I started
to send it back to him at read as follows. "I have known
the boys for several years. As far as I know they have no
bad habits." We haven't heard from Seth since at all.

when we get our insurance changed I want
to get it paid up to the time that the payments are
supposed to be paid. I think it is agreed. You find
out and let's get this thing in good shape. I wrote
the Company a letter but Bob doesn't like the sound so
he is going to write it. This is what I wrote.

Since changes have come about in our family, we
wish for our policies to be changed in case either
I pass away the beneficiary is ~~Bob~~ Mrs. Bessie
Grove Thomhill. If you have papers to be signed by us
we will be ready to sign at any time.

We don't like to trouble people that we are in
business with but I am sure you are more than
glad to make the changes for us.

Sincerely
B & B. J.

What is wrong with the above please tell me. I
think it is a matter piece within itself.

You will find inclosed \$5 for the necessary use.
Bob got his Cotton Check. We sent the back payment
on car; thus more and it is ours.

Be Sweet and take care of your self
Love & Love
Brother.

Before December 7, 1941*

Hello Everyone,

Just a few lines to let you know that I'm still on my feet. I would write a letter but I know Bob has told you everything.

We went on a mountain hike Sunday. It is one great pleasure. I think I have missed lots by not going before now. I can't go to church and on a hike too so I have decided to hike awhile. I will be the same though.

The trail was ten mile long. There were about sixty of us on the hike. Ten of us lost the trail and had to make us one. We had lots of fun. A lady invited us in and gave us [?] water. She let us look through her field glasses also. We saw the name on a tree when we hit. It was a Dr. Cooper. We could see all along the coast for miles which was six miles away. They have a wonderful view of Honolulu and Waikiki. I went swimming when we got back off the hike. I am crazy about the water now.

We wrote Dr. Harvey for a recommendation. I started to send it back to him it read as following. "I have known the boys for several years. As far as I know they have no bad habits". We haven't heard from Seth Ginn at all.

When we get our insurance changed I want to get it paid up to the time that the payments are supposed to be paid. I think it is April. You find out and let's get this thing in good shape. I wrote the company a letter but Bob doesn't like the sound so he is going to write it. This is what I wrote.

Since changes have come about in our family we wish for our policies to be changed in case wither of us pass away to the beneficiary is Mrs.. Bessie Brock Thornhill. If you have the papers to be signed by us we will be ready to sign at any time.

We don't like to trouble people that we are in business with but I am sure you are more than glad to make the changes for us.

Sincerely, B&B T

What is wrong with the above please tell me. I think it is a masterpiece within itself.

You will find enclosed \$5 for the necessary use. Bob got his cotton check. We sent the back payment on car; three more and it is ours.

Be Sweet and take care of yourself,

Lots of Love,

Brock

*The mentioned car was destroyed during the bombing at Pearl Harbor, so this letter must have been written before then.